

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF DISTRICT 497, HELD IN THE LAWRENCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY CENTER,
EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER,
110 McDONALD DRIVE, IN THE CITY OF LAWRENCE**

December 11, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:01 p.m., Board President Shannon Kimball called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Education.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon a motion by Shannon Kimball, seconded by Rick Ingram, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to approve the agenda as published.

BOARD WORK SESSION

Chief Operations Officer Kyle Hayden reviewed the bond project timeline and the schematic designs for additions and renovations at Free State High School. The improvements are the result of the successful \$87 million bond election approved by voters last May.

Gould Evans, the architects on the Free State High project, surveyed staff and students and engaged a school- based Design and Construction Committee of staff and parents to generate ideas for meeting the project's goals: creating 21st-century learning environments, accommodating a growing student population (2,000-student capacity), providing a safe and secure campus, accommodating student privacy, creating equity across the district, and implementing strategic high-performance building system upgrades.

In order to re-center an academic space as the heart of the school, Free State's design includes connecting the dining commons to a reimagined media center. Other improvements include adding a centrally located learning commons or multi- use space, creating secondary and tertiary learning spaces outside of classrooms, moving special education classrooms to the current media center location, addressing student privacy issues by remodeling restrooms and locker rooms, and adding eight classrooms to the east end of the building.

Mr. Hayden shared that design development for the Free State High project should be completed by April, making way for the bid and pre-construction process to begin. The draft design plans can be reviewed at www.usd497.org/schoolboard.

At 6:2 p.m., Board President Shannon Kimball indicated they would break until 7:00 pm.

At 7:00 pm, Board President Shannon Kimball reconvened the meeting.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Matt Brungardt, principal of Lawrence High School recognized Barb Tholen, LHS journalism teacher, and the 2016-17 staff of *The Budget*, Lawrence High's school newspaper, for being awarded the National Scholastic Press Association Pacemaker Award. This is one of the most prestigious honor given to scholastic journalism programs; only 25 schools nationally received this award.

ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members Present</u>	<u>SLT Members Present</u>
Shannon Kimball, president	Anna Stubblefield, interim superintendent
Jessica Beeson, vice president	Julie Boyle, executive director, communications
Jill Fincher	David Cunningham, executive director, human resources/chief legal counsel
Marcel Harmon	Kyle Hayden, Chief Executive Officer
Rick Ingram	Kevin Harrell, executive director, student support services/special education
Melissa Johnson	Kathy Johnson, executive director, finance
Vanessa Sanburn	Paula Murrish, executive director, nutrition & wellness, printing & purchasing
	Dawn Downing, deputy clerk

<u>Others Present (Including Administration and Staff)</u>			
Matt Brungardt	Lisa Delci	Samrie Devin	Laurie Folsom
G.R. Gordon-Ross	Myron Graber	Rick Henry	Alan Hollinger
Elvyn Jones, LJWorld	Kelly Jones	Terry McEwen	Ashton McKnight
Jody Meyer	Stan Roth	Amy Sanchez	Nilou Vakil
Zona Wakole	Keith Wilson		

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

President Shannon Kimball discussed the proposed police headquarters. She shared the following-

"First, let me address the press coverage this past week of the City Commission's decision regarding locating their proposed police facility across the street from Free State High School. I spoke up about the process and the need for district input because, based on inputs over the past several years, I have heard concerns expressed about that area as a potential location. Given those inputs, I feel it is important for the board and the district to have a solid understanding of what exactly the City's plans are for the property, and also for us to be able to share concerns we have about those plans in a meaningful way. As the LJW reports on Tuesday, that site selection will now need to go through a rezoning process. I will work with Dr. Stubblefield to find out from the City how they want us to provide input on this, and similar decisions, in the future. If members of

REPORT OF PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

our school community have concerns or questions about the proposed project as it relates to its impact on schools, please share them with the board and we will make those questions and concerns a part of our communications back to the City.”

President Kimball did an interview last week with a reporter from KJHK at KU on the upcoming legislative session and the legislature’s potential response to the Gannon decision on school funding. The special legislative committee tasked with looking at potential responses had its first meeting on Dec. 4. She encouraged board members and our community to stay engaged in following those conversations.

President Kimball thanked our new board member, GR Gordon-Ross, for attending the day-long Foundations of Boardmanship training on December 1st in Wichita at the KASB annual convention. She also attended the training with GR and claimed they both learned a lot that will help them improve their work as board members.

President Kimball expressed a special thank you to Jessica Beeson for traveling to Wichita and speaking on her behalf at the convention for her candidacy for president-elect designee of KASB. Jessica gave the nominating speech, and Shannon was so very grateful for her support. She stated that she was “incredibly touched by her kind words.”

She also shared that she was excited to be a part of the KASB leadership team starting July 1, 2018. When she becomes the KASB president in July 2019, she will be the second board member from Lawrence to serve in that role - the first was Mr. Lloyd Houston, who served as the association’s president from 1942 to 1947.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD

Superintendent Stubblefield extended congratulations to-

~Shannon Kimball for her recent election as KASB President-Elect-Designee, effective July 1, 2019.

*~Free State High School for earning a \$3,000 Westar grant to support studying the science behind clean energy innovation and designing a 1,000-watt wind turbine

~Barbara Williams, Liberty Memorial Central Middle School assistant principal, for earning the renewal of her National Board Certification in English language arts/adolescence and young adulthood.

~Our Nutrition and Wellness Department for its receipt of several grants recently, including a \$25,000 Topeka Community Foundation grant to increase educational opportunities for Farm 2 School garden coordinators and nutrition & wellness staff, a \$10,000 Live Well Lawrence grant to expand school garden initiatives at Lawrence College and Career Center, Pinckney and Deerfield and a \$15,000 grant to add bicycle fleets to both high school physical education departments, add two indoor bike trainers, which convert bicycles to stationery bikes, at each elementary school, and purchase accessories for special education adapted physical education triathlon training.

Dr. Stubblefield shared that the recommendation from the public meeting about the re-naming of South Middle School will come back to the board at the January 22nd meeting.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD (continued)

Dr. Stubblefield assisted in presenting the district's fall semester Class Act Award to JoAnn Devin, Sunset Hill Elementary secretary. This award honors outstanding classified staff, like Ms. Devin, who support staff and school families.

Dr. Stubblefield reminded all that the board lunch tomorrow is at noon at Quail Run.

Dr. Stubblefield invited families of children in grades 4-12 to attend a Science and Engineering Fair Informational Night tomorrow at the district office at 6:00. This is an opportunity to learn how your child can enter a science fair, including regional fairs and the Kansas State Fair.

Dr. Stubblefield stressed that she along with the board were inviting the public to attend a Community Conversation from 6:30-8:30 on Thursday evening, December 14, in the Lawrence Public Library auditorium to discuss board goals and student achievement and success.

Dr. Stubblefield reminded everyone that our winter break is December 22 through January 3. PreK-12 classes resume on January 4. She wished all of our staff and school families a happy holiday season!

Special Recognition-

Monday marked the final regularly scheduled meeting for board members Marcel Harmon and Vanessa Sanburn. Dr. Stubblefield extended her sincere thanks to Marcel and Vanessa for their outstanding board service. Along with Shannon Kimball, they shared the following-

"The board appointed Harmon to fill an unexpired term in 2014. He was later elected to a two-year term. Harmon served as vice president in 2015-16 and president in 2016-17. With his background in architectural engineering and anthropology, Marcel has been a valuable asset to the Facility Planning process. His professional experience includes consulting with school districts and institutions of higher education, so we have been truly fortunate to benefit from having his lens on our master facility planning process, and always with an eye toward sustainable practices. As a scientist and engineer, Marcel also lent his expertise to the Kansas Review Committee for the Next Generation Science Standards. He has served on a variety of committees, perhaps most notably, the Facility Planning Committee, Educate Lawrence and Horizon 2020. Marcel also was actively involved in the successful campaigns for the 2015 LOB election and the 2017 bond referendum."

President Kimball shared that "Marcel has been an incredibly talented and valuable member of the facility and bond planning committee. His professional expertise has been a great asset to our implementation of the 2013 bond and our planning and implementation of the 2017 bond for our secondary schools. I have served on that committee with Marcel since 2014, and also as a board officer with him, and have always valued his thoughtfulness, insights, attention to detail, and his focus on helping the district make the best decisions both for now and for the long-term. Thank you Marcel for your service."

"Sanburn began her service in 2009. She has twice led the board as vice president (2011- 2012 and 2012-13) and president (2014- 2015 and 2015-16). Also an outstanding supporter of Woodlawn Elementary school, Vanessa began her service on

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT STUBBLEFIELD (continued)

the school board in 2009. She has twice led the board as vice president, in 2011 and 2014, and as president, in 2012 and 2015. With her master's in social work, Vanessa also has brought a valuable perspective to the board, especially in championing the implementation of the National Human Sexuality Standards and the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community. Vanessa has served with fidelity on a variety of committees, perhaps most notably the Policy Review Committee, Negotiations and the Coordinated School Health Council. Vanessa, and her husband, Jake, were both actively involved in the successful passage of the 2013 school bond issue, and assisted with the 2015 LOB election and the 2017 bond referendum. We have enjoyed watching Vanessa's daughter, Amelia, grow up before our eyes, as she often came along to committee meetings."

President Kimball stated, "I have also served as a board officer with Vanessa, and have served with Vanessa on the policy committee since 2011. I will greatly miss her passionate voice and her caring perspective. Vanessa always works to ensure that our decisions support ALL students, and she has been a passionate advocate for our equity work. Her leadership in that area will be missed. Vanessa, thank you for your service."

Dr. Stubblefield summarized it all with, "On behalf of the 12,000 students and 2,000 employees of the Lawrence Public Schools, I thank you both for your outstanding board service. We have a token of our appreciation to present to you tonight during your final regular school board meeting."

BOARD COMMENTARY

Jessica Beeson

On behalf of the Board of Education, Board Vice President Jessica Beeson acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to the following:

...Debra Rhoton for her 23 years of service and devotion to this community and its schools upon his retirement effective 12/21/2017.

Marcel Harmon

He expressed his appreciation for being able to be a part of the school board and his ongoing support to the Lawrence community.

Vanessa Sanburn

She thanked Marcel for his 8-1/2 year commitment to the Lawrence Public Schools and shared that she will miss being on the board. "We all come to the board with full hearts, eager to do the very best we can for all kids," Sanburn said.

PATRON COMMENTARY

3 individuals provided comments, with two of them (Jody Meyer and Nilou Vikal) regarding the pending fundraising policy. Another parent, Lisa Delci, commented regarding bullying at Free State High School.

Ms. Delci was interrupted and a motion was made to enter into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:21 pm, upon a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Jill Fincher, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to recess to executive session to discuss matters affecting a student in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed; with Anna Stubblefield and Lisa Delci, invited to be present; and with the board to return to open session in this room at 7:41 p.m. with possible action to follow.

At 7:25 pm, the board returned and indicated that they needed to re-do the motion to recess to executive session in order to include Ashton McKnight, whom they left out of the initial motion. Upon a motion by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Rick Ingram, the board voted, in a unanimous voice vote, to recess to executive session to discuss matters affecting a student in order to protect the privacy interests of the individuals to be discussed; with Anna Stubblefield, Lisa Delci and Ashton McKnight, invited to be present; and with the board to return to open session in this room at 7:45 p.m.

At 7:47 p.m., the board returned and indicated there was no further action that needed to be taken at this time.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Following a motion by Jessica Beeson, seconded by Melissa Johnson, the board voted, in a 7-0 roll call vote, to adopt the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

The Consent Agenda included the following:

- The minutes of the November 27, 2017, regular board meeting
- The financial reports including school activity funds
- The monthly vouchers in the following account totals:

FUND	FUND DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
001	GENERAL	246,639.06
003	FOOD SERVICE	96,905.14
004	VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	1,120.19
005	SPECIAL EDUCATION	30,724.95
009	CAPITAL OUTLAY	430,927.39
015	ADULT BASIC EDUCATION	55.30
018	VIRTUAL SCHOOL	58,051.73
020	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOP	21,496.01
021	BILINGUAL FUND	346.56
022	PARENTS AS TEACHERS	231.76
024	STUDENTS MATLS REVOLVE	4,498.68
025	AT RISK (K-12)	84.10
026	AR RISK 4 YEAR OLD	357.00
030	WORK COMP RESERVE	313.32
031	CONTINGENCY FUNDS	1,352.73
035	2013 BONDS	49,385.04
036	2017 BONDS	391,950.00
037	LEASE PROJ 23 RD ST	72,346.00
040 18	TITLE 1 2018	2,577.02

043 18	INDIAN EDUC TITLE 2018	91.45
044 17	JOHNSON O'MALLEY 2017	531.93
046 18	TITLE IIA 2018	1,220.00
048 18	CARL PERKINS 2018	1,850.45
050 18	TITLE VIBDIS 2018	14,818.50
053 18	KMSG MIDDLE SCHOOL 2018	2,098.64
054 18	KS DEAF/BLIND 2018	5,488.15
091	SALES TAX	1.66
095	PAYROLL FUND	406,621.6
275	SPECTRA-MEDICAID	16,985.98
800	LOC/DON/GRA	4,335.97
	GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,865,505.05

- Approvals of the following:
 - Accept Financial Audit
 - Revisions to Board Policy on Vending Machines

**Reports & Approvals~
Board Policy-Fundraising**

David Cunningham, executive director, human resources and chief legal counsel, along with Kathy Johnson, executive director of finance reviewed a new fundraising policy that would establish consistent guidelines and expectations for fundraising across the district.

In addition to protecting students, staff and donors, board members believe the policy would assist the district in complying with IRS, Kansas State High. The policy includes safety measures that would prohibit door-to-door sales for students younger than high school-age, planning recommendations requiring pre-approval for all fundraising activities, and equity safeguards to ensure students know they are not required to raise funds in order to participate on a team or club.

Board members decided to engage parent-teacher organizations and booster clubs in order to gather feedback about the proposed policy before considering it for approval.

**Reports~
HR Recruiting**

Human Resources Director Samrie Devin shared strategies the department uses to recruit a talented and diverse staff. These include adding new recruitment sites, including the Pittsburgh Education Recruitment Consortium and National Alliance of Black School Educators Conference, hosting local recruitment fairs for certified and classified staff, and working to support classified staff in earning teacher certification via an exploration of para pathway licensure program through Fort Hays State University and Grand Canyon University.

This fall, a teacher fair was held at the College and Career Center in which sixty (60) individuals participated; thirteen (13) were hired.

Current demographics for Lawrence Public Schools show the racial/ethnic makeup of the study body is 66.5% White, 9.9% Hispanic, 9.6% Multi-Racial, 6.2% Black, 4%

REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Asian, 3.1% American Indian/Alaskan Native and .024% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

Whereas, the breakdown of the race/ethnicity of the district's total staff is 86.81% White, 4.65% Hispanic, 5.01% Black, 1.23% Asian, 2.10% American Indian/Alaskan Native, and .20% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

Graduation Rates

Terry McEwen, director of assessment, research and accountability, shared data about students who entered high school four years ago and either graduated in May or completed the required credits by September 30, 2017.

McEwen reminded the board that "non-graduates" and "drop-outs" are not the same thing. "If a student transfers to a non-accredited private school, a GED program, a home school or leaves the district without proof of re-enrolling elsewhere, they are counted as non-graduates," McEwen said. Drop-outs are students who discontinue their schooling.

Lawrence's overall graduation rate for the category of "All Students" declined from 86.5% in 2014 to 82.7% in 2017. The percentage reflects 988 students in the cohort for Lawrence High, Free State High, Lawrence Virtual School and the Detention Day School. Of that number, 817 graduated.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:25 pm, a motion was made by Vanessa Sanburn, seconded by Marcel Harmon, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Education. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Dawn Downing
Deputy Clerk, Board of Education